

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA**

Disability Support Alliance, and
Zach Hillesheim,

Case Number: 15cv1491 (MJD/SER)

Plaintiffs,

v.

**NOTICE OF PRETRIAL
SCHEDULING CONFERENCE**

KAH 20 2nd Avenue LLC, and
Kahler Hotels, LLC,

Defendants.

Paul R. Hansmeier, Class Justice PLLC, 100 5th Street South, Suite 1900, Minneapolis,
MN 55402

Ken D. Schueler, Dunlap & Seeger, P.O. Box 549, Rochester, MN 55903

If counsel for all parties are not listed above, it is the responsibility of counsel for plaintiff to (1) immediately notify those parties and counsel of this conference, and (2) inform those parties and counsel of the requirements set forth in this notice.

Failure of any party or counsel to comply with any part of this Order, **including emailing a copy of the Rule 26(f) Report and confidential settlement letter to Magistrate Judge Rau by the date specified in this Order**, may result in the postponement of the pretrial conference, an imposition of an appropriate sanction on the party, company or attorney who failed to comply, or both.

I. DATE, TIME, PLACE AND PARTICIPANTS

Pursuant to Rule 16 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Local Rule 16 of the Rules of this District, a pretrial conference of trial counsel in the above matter will be held in chambers in Room 334, U.S. Courthouse, 316 North Robert Street, St. Paul, Minnesota, on **May**

12, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. before United States Magistrate Judge Steven E. Rau to consider the matters set forth in Rule 16(c), the Rule 26(f) disclosures, and related matters.

Counsel who will be trying the case should make every effort to be present at the conference. If this is not possible, substitute counsel should attend who can knowledgeably discuss the dispute and the matters set forth in Rule 16(c), the Rule 26(f) disclosures, and related matters.

II. MEETING, REPORTS AND DISCLOSURES REQUIRED

A. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(f), trial counsel for each party shall confer in person or by telephone to discuss (a) settlement, and (b) to prepare the report required by Rule 26(f) and Local Rule 16.2.

B. If the case does not settle, no later than **May 5, 2015**, counsel shall jointly prepare and file with the Clerk of Court on ECF ("Electronic Case Filing") a complete written report of the Rule 26(f) meeting. **A copy of the 26(f) Report and the confidential settlement letter shall be emailed to rau_chambers@mnd.uscourts.gov.** The Report shall contain the following information:

1. Date and Place of the Meeting; Identification of the Parties and Their Attorneys; Agenda of Matters for Pretrial Conference.

- a. The date and place at which the meeting was held;
- b. Name, address and occupation or business of each party, together with the name, address and telephone number of the attorneys who represented each party at the meeting;
- c. Name of insurance carriers that may be liable for the defense or payment of any damage award; and
- d. An agenda of matters to be discussed at the Pretrial Conference.

2. Description of the Case

- a. A concise statement of the jurisdictional basis of the case, giving statutory citation and a brief narrative description;
- b. A brief narrative of the facts giving rise to the lawsuit, including a description of legal claims and defenses; and
- c. A summary itemization of the dollar amount of each element of the alleged damages.

3. Pleadings

- a. A statement of whether the Complaint and all responsive pleadings have been filed, and whether any party proposes to amend its pleadings;
- b. The date by which all motions that seek to amend the pleadings to add parties, claims and defenses will be filed; and
- c. Whether a jury trial is available under the law, and whether a jury trial has been timely demanded.

4. Discovery Plan (If the parties are unable to agree on a discovery plan, the Report shall separately set forth each party's proposed plan.) Such a plan shall include such matters as focusing the initial discovery on preliminary issues that might be case dispositive or might lead to early settlement discussions, instituting document control mechanisms, stipulating to facts to eliminate unnecessary discovery, and any other matters counsel may agree upon to control litigation costs and delay. In addition, the plan shall provide the following information:

- a. Date by which the initial Rule 26(a)(1) disclosures of witnesses, documents, itemized damage computations and insurance will be completed. (**Note:** Unless otherwise agreed by counsel, the initial disclosures under Rule 26(a)(1) shall be exchanged no later than 14 days from the Rule 26(f) meeting);
- b. Whether the parties wish to engage in any method of alternative dispute resolution following Rule 26(a)(1) disclosures but before formal discovery is commenced, and if not, when the parties believe that alternative dispute resolution would be appropriate. In addition, state the proposed method of alternative dispute resolution;
- c. Whether discovery should be conducted in phases (e.g., to first discover information bearing on dispositive issues or on settlement), or limited to or focused upon, particular issues;
- d. How the parties propose handling any issues relating to the disclosure or discovery of electronically stored information, including the form or forms

in which it should be produced;

- e. How the parties propose handling claims of privilege and protection of trial preparation material;
- f. How the parties propose handling the protection of confidential information;
- g. The date by which each party shall disclose the identity of expert witnesses and their reports under Rule 26(a)(2)(A) and (B), including rebuttal experts;
- h. Whether changes should be made in the limitations on discovery imposed by the Federal Rules of Procedure or the Local Rules, and what other limitations should be imposed, if any;
- i. The number of interrogatories each party shall be permitted to serve, including subparts;
- j. The number of depositions (excluding depositions of expert witnesses) each party shall be permitted to take; and
- k. The number of expert depositions each party shall be permitted to take.

5. Close of Fact and Expert Discovery and Non-Dispositive Motions

- a. The date by which all fact discovery shall be completed;
- b. The date by which all expert discovery, including expert depositions, shall be completed;
- c. The date by which any independent medical examination shall be completed and the report served on the opposing party; and
- d. The date by which all non-dispositive motions shall be served, filed and heard by the Court.

6. Dispositive Motions and Trial

- a. Date by which all dispositive motions shall be served, filed and heard by the Court;
- b. Date by which case will be ready for trial;
- c. The number of expert witnesses each party expects to call at trial; and

- d. Estimated trial time (the number of days needed for trial, including jury selection and instructions, if applicable).

C. Each party shall also submit a letter to Magistrate Judge Rau concerning settlement which shall remain confidential between the Court and that party. This confidential letter shall describe the following information: (a) the status of settlement discussions to date; (b) whether you are interested in participating in a voluntary settlement conference with the Magistrate Judge; (c) if you are interested in participating in a voluntary settlement conference with the Magistrate Judge, when you believe this settlement conference should take place. **The confidential letter shall be emailed (rau_chambers@mnd.uscourts.gov) to Magistrate Judge Rau's chambers on or before May 5, 2015.**

**III. EXERCISE OF JURISDICTION BY U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE PURSUANT
TO TITLE 28, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 636(c)**

If the parties consent to have this matter tried before the Magistrate Judge, **all counsel must jointly sign** the attached form by the date of the pretrial conference. Send the completed form directly to the chambers of Chief Judge Michael J. Davis, at the following e-mail address: davis_chambers@mnd.uscourts.gov.

Dated: April 13, 2015

s/Steven E Rau
Steven E. Rau
U.S. Magistrate Judge